

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are currently pending. In a telephonic interview on June 3, 2004, the Examiner indicated that claims 17-19 are allowable. Applicant thanks the examiner for this indication of allowance, and herein cancels claims 1-18 and 20-30.

Applicant also proposes to add new claims 31-44. Proposed new claims 31-44 are allowable for the following reasons. First regarding proposed new claims 31-39, these claims depend from and include all of the elements of allowable claim 17. For this reason, proposed new claims 31-39 are allowable.

Next regarding proposed new claims 40-41, proposed new independent claim 40 includes all of the elements of allowable claim 17, and the additional element of a deployment indicator disposed on a selected strip, wherein the deployment indicator is configured to be effective in low visibility conditions to indicate to a user how to move the grid between the open configuration and the collapsed configuration. Because proposed independent claim 40 includes all of the elements of allowable claim 17, proposed independent claim 40 is also allowable. Furthermore, proposed new claim 41 depends from and includes all of the elements of proposed new claim 40, and is therefore also allowable.

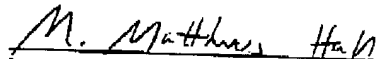
Next regarding proposed new claims 42-44, proposed new independent claim 42 includes all of the elements of allowable claim 17, and the additional element of an orientation indicator disposed on a selected strip of the plurality of strips, wherein the orientation indicator is configured to be effective in low visibility conditions to indicate to a user an orientation of the fluent material confinement system. Because proposed

new independent claim 42 includes all of the elements of allowable claim 17, proposed new independent claim 42 is also allowable. Furthermore, proposed new claims 43-44 depend from and include all of the elements of proposed independent claim 41, and are therefore also allowable.

Applicant believes that this application is now in condition for allowance, in view of the above amendments and remarks. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, please contact the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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